

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C., 20231, on:

Date:

1/24/01

By:

*Deborah Brockmeyer*

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

Fuerst, et al.

SERIAL No.: Not yet Assigned

FILED: Concurrently Herewith

FOR: HEPATITIS E VIRUS ANTIGENS AND  
USES THEREFOR

EXAMINER: Unknown

ART UNIT: Unknown

**Preliminary Amendment**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination and calculation of the filing fee of the above application, filed herewith, please amend the application as follows.

**In the specification:**

On page 1, line 5 thereof, after "application is a" insert --divisional of U.S. Application Serial No. 08/542,634 filed October 13, 1995, now allowed; which--.

**In the Claims:**

Please cancel claims 1-10 and 15-17 without prejudice.

REMARKS

Entry of this preliminary amendment prior to examination is respectfully requested. By this Amendment, claims 1-10 and 15-17 have been canceled and claims 11-14 and 18-24 are pending.

Respectfully submitted,



Larry W. Thrower  
Registration No. P47,994

Date: 1/24/01

Correspondence Address:

Customer No. 22918  
Phone: (650) 324-0880